

REMARKS

Applicants note with appreciation that, in the Office Action of February 7, 2007, claims 1-22 were allowed and claims 24 and 25 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. However, claim 23 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent Number 6,583,675 B2 ("Gomez").

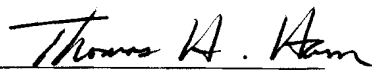
In response, Applicants have rewritten the "objected to" claim 24 in independent form by amending the independent claim 23 to include the subject matter of claim 24. As a result, claim 24 has been amended to include a different limitation. In addition, the independent claims 1 and 17 have been amended to correct minor informalities.

In view of the claim amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that the amended independent claim 23 is now in condition for allowance. In addition, since the dependent claims 24 and 25 include all the limitations of the amended independent claim 23, Applicants submit that these dependent claims are also allowable for at least the same reasons as the amended independent claim 23. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that claims 23-25 be allowed. A notice of allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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